



WESTMINSTER TRAFFIC COMMISSION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

City Council Chambers, 8200 Westminster Blvd.
Tuesday - May 31, 2011 at 6:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Westminster Traffic Commission was called to order by Chairman A. Nguyen on Tuesday, May 31, 2011 at 6:05 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 8200 Westminster Boulevard, Westminster, California.

SALUTE TO FLAG

Commissioner Carey led the members of the audience in the Salute to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Diana Carey, Gilbert Cruz, Andrew Nguyen, Linh Nguyen and Ken Robbins

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Adolfo Ozaeta, Associate Civil Engineer; Corporal Mark Lauderback, Police Department; Sergeant Tom Finley, Police Department and Veronica Johnson, Secretary.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Traffic Commission's regular meeting of April 26, 2011 were approved 5-0.

ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED

The Commission agreed to hear the third item on the agenda first at the request of staff due to the number of residents wishing to speak on the item.

The first item to be considered at this evening's meeting was T.C. 11-105, Request for Parking Restrictions on Hazard Avenue at Titus Street.

T.C. 11-105 Hazard Avenue

Mr. Ozaeta informed the Commission that staff received a written request from Mr. Sang Bui, 14422 Titus Street. His concern was that there was not enough sight visibility to the east and west of the intersection of Hazard Avenue at Titus Street. He provided a detailed sketch of the problem area which included images of sight visibility and a petition containing seven residential signatures.

Staff performed an engineering analysis at subject location. Attention was directed to Exhibit A to illustrate the 5-second corner sight distance analysis. Staff determined that by removing parking it would allow enough time for a turn maneuver to be safely performed.

STAFF'S

RECOMMENDATION Staff's recommendation was to approve the installation of parking restrictions on the north side of Hazard Avenue for a distance of 100 feet to the east of Titus Street and 50 feet to the west of Titus Street.

Sang Bui, 14422 Titus Street, spoke in favor of the parking restrictions and requested that the restrictions to only be applied during the weekend. He does not want the residents located at 14471 and 14472 to lose their parking spaces during the week.

Dan Karella, 14431 Starsia Street, spoke in favor of the parking restrictions during the weekend due to the travelling softball leagues at Westminster Park. There are four games a day and only 56 parking spaces available at the park. The vehicles are in excess of the number of parking allotted which results in the overflow of parking in the residential area.

June Traver, 9132 Hazard Avenue, spoke in favor of the parking restrictions for the weekend. The high volume of cars for the park start at 7:30 a.m. and the Buddhist Montessori house has over 100 people visiting on Sundays. She has a very narrow driveway and at times cannot pull into her driveway. She would also like to request 3 feet of red curb in front of her home.

Rita Leon, 14472 Titus Street, spoke in favor of the parking restrictions because there is a lot of traffic, honking and braking on Titus. However, she is concerned with the kids from the baseball teams parking across the street and having to cross Hazard due to the fact that she has seen people run over and killed there.

Commissioner Carey observed the area on a Friday and found the sight to be restrictive to make a left turn maneuver from Titus onto Hazard. Red curb markings should be placed on the northeast side and parking could be a shorter distance on the northwest side, in front of the Montessori.

Chairman A. Nguyen stated that the problem is only on the weekend and there is not enough parking. The red curb would only push the problem into the neighborhood. Is there any other solution, perhaps timed parking?

Mr. Ozaeta explained that timed parking on a minor street is difficult to monitor and challenging because vehicles may not be cited. Timed parking works well on major streets to

keep the flow of traffic moving during peak hours. This particular location may need less red curb so that the neighborhood may not be so impacted.

Commissioner Cruz suggested decreasing the red curb marking from 170 feet to 150 or 140 and altering it in the future if needed.

Mr. Ozaeta explained the 5 second sight visibility analysis may be diminishing in the City due to trying to preserve parking. Staff can adjust the 170 feet to 100 and 110 feet to 50. Mr. Bui can monitor the area for 6 months and notify staff if modifications need to be made.

Mr. Sang explained that the residents listed on the poll are aware of the possible loss of parking and are more concerned with the safety of making turn maneuvers onto Hazard.

MOTION

Commissioner Cruz moved to approve parking restrictions on the north side of Hazard Avenue for a distance of 100 feet to the east of Titus Street and 50 feet to the west of Titus Street, seconded by Commissioner Carey

VOTE

The motion was carried by a 5-0 vote.

T.C. 73-105 Springdale Street

The second item to be considered at this evening's meeting was T.C. 73-105, staff proposal to install parking restrictions on the west side of Springdale Street at Meinhardt Road.

Mr. Ozaeta informed the Commission that staff identified the need for parking restrictions at subject location due to the current traffic signal installation under construction. This signal was on the Traffic Signal Priority List and was funded from a redevelopment grant the City had received. Parking restrictions needed to be assessed and there is not an isolated left-turn pocket for both north and southbound traffic. Currently, there are two through lanes in both directions of the street and a fifth lane will be introduced on both southbound and northbound left lanes. This will result in eliminating parking at the intersection. Parking is allowed at 5982 Meinhardt and 160 feet will need to be removed at that location for the intersection to operate efficiently.

STAFF'S

RECOMMENDATION Staff's recommendation was to install 160 feet of parking restrictions on the west side of Springdale Street at Meinhardt Road.

MOTION

Vice Chairman Robbins moved to approve staff's recommendation to install 160 feet of red curb on the east side of Springdale Street from Meinhardt Road going north, seconded by Commissioner Carey.

VOTE

The motion was carried by a 5-0 vote.

T.C. 11-104**Hazard Avenue**

The third item for discussion was T.C. 11-104, Request for parking restrictions on Hazard Avenue at Olive Street.

Mr. Ozaeta informed that Pete Quinn, Public Works Manager, requested that staff investigate sight visibility at the subject location. The Corporation Yard is located in the area and City staff is constantly making a left turn on Olive Street for any work activities throughout the day. They are driving cargo and loaded vehicles that tend to pull out slower than a regular passenger vehicle.

Staff performed a 5-second corner sight distance analysis and found 87 feet and an additional 40 feet would be required to meet the study; however, staff's preference would be 87 feet of restrictions due to the existing driveway providing additional visibility.

STAFF'S

RECOMMENDATION Staff's recommendation was to approve the installation of parking restrictions on the north side of Hazard Avenue for a distance of 87 feet to the east of Olive Street.

MOTION

Vice Chairman Robbins moved to approve staff's recommendation for red curb parking restriction on the north side of Hazard Avenue for a distance of 87 feet to the east of Olive Street, seconded by Commissioner Carey.

VOTE

The motion was carried by a 5-0 vote.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no "New Business" items presented to the Commission at tonight's meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no "Old Business" items presented to the Commission at tonight's meeting.

**INFORMATION
& REPORTS**

There were no "Information and Reports" items presented to the Commission at tonight's meeting.

ORAL**COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no "Oral Communications" items presented to the Commission at tonight's meeting.

WRITTEN**COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no "Written Communications" items presented to the Commission at tonight's meeting.

ITEMS**COMMISSIONERS****MAY WISH TO****DISCUSS**

Commissioner Cruz informed staff that a property located at Arizona and Hospital Circle has graffiti and is vacant. He had been asked to let the City know that the property owner needs to take care of this property Mrs. Johnson explained she will forward the information to the Code Enforcement Department because it is private property.

Chairman A. Nguyen questioned touring the new Police Department and the Commission agreed to visit the building after the next scheduled meeting.

ITEMS STAFF MAY**WISH TO DISCUSS**

Mr. Ozaeta informed the Commission that Commissioner Cruz's request for the tree to be trimmed at the Walgreen's location had been taken care of. The Police Department can increase enforcement in the area for illegal left turn maneuvers.

Mr. Ozaeta informed that Commissioner Nguyen's request for a stop sign at Moran and Kramer had been assessed. Staff did not find enough traffic volume and will look into accident reports.

Mr. Ozaeta wanted to thank the Police Department for monitoring the Springdale and Iroquois intersection while the signal was turned on.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marwan Youssef
Public Works Director/City Engineer


By: Veronica Johnson
Secretary